

A TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL
KATHLEEN K. PAIGE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize the service of an outstanding leader in our Nation's Armed Forces. After more than 34 years in uniform, Rear Admiral Kathleen K. Paige will soon retire from the United States Navy and move on to private life.

Admiral Paige's sustained, superb service culminated in a series of highly challenging senior assignments where she demonstrated dedication to one primary goal: providing highly effective military capabilities to warfighters.

Her first Flag assignment was as Commander, Naval Surface Warfare Center in July 1996. Two years later, she assumed duties as Director, Theater Air and Missile Defense and Systems Engineering in the Program Executive Office for Theater Surface Combatants. Then, in April 1999, she was given the additional concurrent assignment as the first Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development & Acquisition) Chief Engineer—the Navy's senior technical authority for development of system and technical architectures. Because of her extraordinary talent and expertise in complex systems, in July 2001, the Missile Defense Agency selected her to be the first Ballistic Missile Defense System Technical Director in charge of integrating the engineering development of all the systems comprising the missile defense program.

Since August 2002, Admiral Paige has also served as the Navy's senior Engineering Duty Officer—nurturing the engineering community's rich heritage of scientific fact-finding and integrated, top-down engineering to ensure continuous innovation. At the same time, she made certain that the Navy remained anchored to fundamental operational realities.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations to the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan as they celebrate the 14th anniversary of their Independence from the Soviet Union. On October 18, 1991, Azerbaijan adopted its Constitutional Act on Independence declaring their independence as a sovereign state.

Having lived under Soviet rule, the people of Azerbaijan have a great appreciation of living in a democratic civil society and understand that they need to continue to democratize and hold free and fair elections in order to develop and integrate into western structures.

On November 6, 2005, Azerbaijan will hold important parliamentary elections. As a sign of his commitment to ensuring free and fair elections, President Ilham Aliyev issued an Executive Order earlier this year outlining important steps that will be taken prior to the election. Since then great progress has been made to:

allow all political parties to organize rallies free from violence and intimidation, welcome domestic and international election observers, provide appropriate access to media, and ensure central and regional authorities create the necessary conditions for exit polls.

Azerbaijan has come forward as a strong strategic partner and ally not only to the United States but also among the democratic societies in our world. I congratulate Azerbaijan on this important day and look forward to them having free and fair elections next month.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORMER TAIWANESE PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome former Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui to Washington, DC.

President Lee Teng-Hui is truly a founding father of democracy. As president of Taiwan from 1988 to 2000, Mr. Lee Teng-Hui helped Taiwan develop into the strong democracy it is today. Today, Taiwan is a vital, growing democracy committed to the universal principles of human freedom and dignity. I am certain that President Lee Teng-Hui's visits to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall and his viewing of the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence has only deepened his appreciation of America's struggle for democracy.

It is my hope that one day there will be open dialogue between high level officials in the United States and in Taiwan for the development of democracy beyond our two countries and around the world.

CONGRATULATING RANDY EVANS
AND RANDY EVANS CONSTRUCTION
FOR WINNING THE SEORC
BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Randy Evans, with effort and desire, started Randy Evans Construction and has made it a significant competitor in the Jackson area construction business; and

Whereas, Randy Evans and Randy Evans Construction have helped shape the Jackson area community; and

Whereas, Randy Evans' commitment to perfection, perseverance and fortitude are an inspiration to everyone in Jackson County and beyond.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Randy Evans and Randy Evans Construction for winning this prestigious award.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COURT, OFFENDER SUPERVISION,
PAROLE AND PUBLIC DEFENDER
EMPLOYEES EQUITY ACT OF 2005

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today Chairman TOM DAVIS and I introduce a bill that will correct a long overdue oversight affecting the non-judicial employees of the D.C. Courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA), and the D.C. Public Defender Service (PDS).

Under the 1997 National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the federal government took over the operation of the District of Columbia Courts and related services making the non-judicial employees of the D.C. Courts and the employees of CSOSA federal employees. In 1998, employees of PDS were similarly transferred as part of the District of Columbia Courts and Justice Technical Collections Act. As federal employees, these Court, CSOSA and PDS employees were brought under the federal retirement program (FERS). However, for the employees transferred in 1997 and in 1998, "creditable service" for the purposes of determining when they would be eligible to retire and the amount of annuity they would be entitled to under FERS only began from the date of the transfer. That is, the 1997 and 1998 laws made no provision for treating their year of service as Court and related services employees prior to these laws as creditable service for retirement.

Accordingly, the bill we introduced today will amend these laws to require that the time served by these employees before 1997 will count towards their overall federal retirement eligibility as "creditable service". So for example, if an employee is 60 years old today and has worked 20 years (i.e. since 1985) for the D.C. Courts under our bill he would be eligible for federal retirement today (whereas without our bill he would have to work another twelve years).

I should also note that to avoid the problem of "double dipping," since the employees are still entitled to their D.C. retirement benefits (based upon their work status up until 1997), our bill does not count the pre-1997 years spent as D.C. government employees towards the amount of federal retirement annuity an employee is eligible to receive.

However, it is only fair and just that the Court and related services employees who started their jobs with the expectation that would be able to retire without penalty after 20 years of service or more should be allowed to do so. Our bill today does just that, it restores their "lost time."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the following votes on Monday, October 17th, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote No. 521: I would have voted "aye" on approving the Journal.

Rollcall vote No. 522: I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 457, recognizing the importance and positive contributions of chemistry to our everyday lives and supporting the goals and ideas of National Chemistry Week.

Rollcall vote No. 523: I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 491, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to raising awareness and enhancing the state of computer security in the United States and supporting the goals and ideas of National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

INTRODUCTION OF "PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN THE MILITARY ACT OF 2005"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce legislation, the "Preventing Sexual Assaults in the Military Act of 2005," which would appropriate such funds as are necessary for fiscal years 2006 through 2008 to eliminate the backlog in processing DNA evidence, to ensure that testing takes place in a timely manner, to provide an adequate supply of forensic evidence collection kits at all domestic and overseas U.S. military installations, military academies, and theaters of operation, and to ensure that at least one military medical personnel member, who is trained as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) or Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE), is on duty at all times in the health care facility at a military academy, domestic military base, overseas military base, and theaters of operation, except where a memorandum of understanding is issued between the military installation and a local civilian hospital.

Rapes and sexual assaults are far too common in both civilian life and in the military. As the April 2004 report issued by the Pentagon states, among other findings, current DoD policies and standards do not focus on sexual assault and "the military services' policies lack integration for effective prevention and response."

This legislation will help bring justice to the victims and survivors of sexual assault by ensuring that DNA evidence is used to identify perpetrators and bring them to justice. Additionally, it will provide servicemembers who are raped with the necessary medical care.

As our soldiers are fighting for those who have long been denied basic rights, we should do everything possible to ensure that we are protecting their rights, too.

HONORING CLARENCE S. HAINES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of C.S. Mott Community College located in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. On October 24, members of Mott's administration, faculty, staff, and student body

will gather to pay tribute to the contributions made by Clarence S. Haines, a true pioneer in the fields of Applied Sciences and Technical Education at the college. Mr. Haines, who died in 1995, will be honored with a plaque honoring his life and legacy, to be displayed in Mott's Regional Technology Center.

Born in 1905, Clarence "Mike" Haines was the first chairman of Mott Community College's Trades and Industry Department. In 1955, he was awarded the Ballenger Chair of Learning in that area. He created specialized curricula that helped usher the school into the technology age, and facilitated the planning, coordination, and implementation of these programs. Clarence also assisted with designing the school's Mott and Gorman Buildings to simulate workplace environments and provide practical experiences for students. Mott's Applied Sciences program was created largely as a result of his influence.

Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher, I applaud Clarence Haines' dedication and commitment to education. His insight and vision have helped create many opportunities for our young people, past, present, and future. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in acknowledging his memorable achievements.

CONGRATULATING BEAR VILLAGE AND KEITH AND LYNN DENNY FOR WINNING THE BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Keith and Lynn Denny have built one of the premier gift shops in Jackson County; and

Whereas, Bear Village has grown to be an impeccable illustration of what Jackson County has to offer and what great potential the community has; and

Whereas, Keith and Lynn Denny's vision has added greatly to the beauty of Jackson County and is further enhancing the attractiveness of Water Street.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Bear Village and Keith and Lynn Denny for winning this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF CHARLES W. PERKINS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Firefighter Charles W. "Chuck" Perkins for his twenty-three years of dedicated service to the North County Fire Protection District and his commitment to serving his community.

Chuck Perkins and his fellow firefighters from the North County Fire Protection District have served the Fallbrook, Bonsall and Rainbow areas with honor since the district was chartered in 1925. Classified an "all-risk" fire, rescue and hazard mitigation agency, it serves

over 150 square miles in the northern-most portion of San Diego County.

Chuck Perkins' service to his community began in 1982, as a Reserve Firefighter. On July 20, 1987, he was hired as a full-time Fire/EMS Dispatcher. His hard work and dedication were recognized on April 5, 1988, when he was hired as a full-time Firefighter. His contributions to the agency led to his promotion to the rank of Engineer on March 15, 1999.

Engineer Perkins was actively involved in fire, rescue, emergency services and fire prevention programs. He managed the Engine Company's Fire Inspection Program for over ten years. The Fire Inspection Program, along with Engineer Perkins' skilled management resulted in a significant reduction in fire loss to the business community of the greater Fallbrook, Bonsall and Rainbow areas.

Engineer Perkins is regarded as a humble and generous man by his fellow San Diegans. His involvement in the community is not limited to his work as an Engineer in the North County Fire Protection District. For the last fifteen years, Engineer Perkins has volunteered his time as a leader in the district's public education efforts. He demonstrated his passion for fire prevention and safety education by portraying "Smokey the Bear," performing for thousands of school children during his career, promoting Smokey's fire prevention message, "Only you can prevent forest fires." Engineer Perkins continues to share his time as a "Partner in Prevention," by traveling to local schools, teaching kids to "Stop, Drop and Roll" as well as the "Exit Drill in the Home" (EDITH) exercise. In addition to his portrayal of Smokey the Bear, he also warns school children about the dangers of fire and smoke as "Evil Mr. Smoke."

Engineer Chuck Perkins will retire from the North County Fire Protection District on October 28, 2005, after more than 23 years of esteemed service, though he will continue to remain a leader in fire safety education. Chuck Perkins is due our respect and gratitude for his tireless service and genuine commitment to his community now, and in the future.

CONGRATULATING DFW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR RECEIVING "STAR OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY" AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport for receiving a "Star of Energy Efficiency" Award from the Alliance to Save Energy. DFW won the award for its aggressive pursuit and corporate commitment to the efficient and environmentally friendly use of energy.

Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport currently serves more than 59 million passengers and offers 2,300 flights a day to 152 domestic and international destinations. DFW has faced daunting challenges since 2001, including a catastrophic business downturn in the airlines precipitated by terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC, and the Environmental Protection Agency's introduction of stringent national ambient clean air